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February 17, 2004

**VIA FACSIMILE
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**

To: Examiner Laura Schillinger Facsimile No. 703-872-9306
 Group Art Unit No. 2813
 U. S. P. T. O.

From: Phillip E. Miller Facsimile No. 703-761-2375

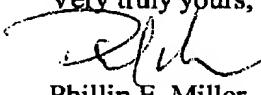
Re: Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. 1.116
 U. S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/845,336
 Our Ref: NGB.182

Dear Examiner Schillinger:

Please find enclosed an Amendment in response to the Office Action dated November 17, 2003, which should place this case in condition for allowance.

Thank you in advance for your kind consideration of this case.

Very truly yours,


 Phillip E. Miller

PEM/tm
 Enclosure